

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4891

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR KN KS ET US

SUBJECT: REFUTATION OF NORTH KOREAN CHARGE US STARTED
KOREAN WAR

REF: ADDIS 6821 AND PREVIOUS

1. IN CONNECTION ESTABLISHMENT EPMG-DPRK DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, ETHIOPIAN HERALD OF JUNE 10-12-13 HAS BEEN PROMINENTLY FEATURING ARTICLES ON NORTH KOREA. ARTICLES, EVIDENTLY NORTH KOREAN-PRODUCED, HAVE REGULARLY FEATURED ATTACKS UPON THE US. LATEST SUCH ARTICLE, TODAY (JUNE 13) ASSERTS AGAIN INTER ALIA THAT KOREAN WAR "IGNITED BY US IMPERIALISM."

2. FOLLOWING FIRST OF THESE ARTICLES IN JUNE 10 ETHIOPIAN HERALD, EMASSY SENT LETTER TO AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR MOFA EXPRESSING ITS SURPRISE THAT MININFO EPMG PERMITTING USE OF ITS MEDIA FOR THE DISSEMINATION OF UNTRUTHS AND MALICIOUS STATEMENTS REGARDING COUNTRY WITH WHICH ETHIOPIA MAINTAINING FRIENDLY RELATIONS. LETTER EXPRESSED HOPE THAT EPMG WOULD IN FUTURE PREVENT REPETITION OF SUCH POLEMICS AND PATENT UNTRUTHS REGARDING THE U.S.

3. IN VIEW CONTINUING APPEARANCE THIS MATERIAL AND IN EXPECTATION
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THAT OPENING OF NORTH KOREAN EMBASSY HERE WILL FACE US WITH ADDI-

TIONAL ALLEGATIONS OF SAME NATURE, UNLESS EPMG CAN BE INDUCED TO DENY ITS MEDIA TO SUCH POLEMICS OR DPRK DISCOVERS THAT SUCH ATTACKS LEAD TO PAINFUL USG RIPOSTES, EMBASSY PROPOSED TO REACT NOW WITH FACTUAL LETTER TO THE EDITOR OF ETHIOPIAN HEARLD.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST BY IMMEDIATE RETURN TELEGRAM APPROVAL OF FOLLOWING TEXT (AND CONFIRMATION ITS ACCURACY) OR SUITABLE SUBSTITUTE LANGUAGE. QUOTE. TO THE EDITOR. SIR: IN CONNECTION WITH ARTICLES ON NORTH KOREA WHICH HAVE BEEN APPEARING IN THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD SINCE JUNE 10 LAST AND WHICH HAVE SEVERAL TIMES ATTEMPTED TO ASCRIBE TO THE U.S. RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE OUTBREAK OF THE KOREAN WAR, I THINK IT NECESSARY TO RECALL THE FOLLOWING FACTS:

A. ON THE AFTERNOON OF JUNE 25, 1950 THE UN KOREAN COMMISSION OFFICIALLY REPORTED TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UN, MR. TRYGVE LIE, AS FOLLOWS:

"THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA WAS ATTACKED BY NORTH KOREAN FORCES AT 0400 ON JUNE 25 ALL ALONG THE THIRTY-EIGHTH PARALLEL. MAJOR ELEMENTS OF THE INVADING FORCES ATTACKED THE KAESONG DISTRICT, INCLUDING THE ONGJIN PENINSULA AND CHUN-CHON. SOUTH AND NORTH OF KANGNUNG, THE INVADERS MADE A LANDING OPERATION. IN THE POHANG AREA, TOO, ANOTHER LANDING WAS MADE."

B. THE UNITED STATES STATE DEPARTMENT THEREUPON REQUESTED UN SECRETARY GENERAL LIE URGENTLY TO CONVENE THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

C. IN THE AFTERNOON OF JUNE 25 (U.S. TIME) THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL CONVENED AT LAKE SUCCESS IN NEW YORK AND OVERSHELMINGLY ADOPTED A RESOLUTION (S/1501) WHICH STATED, IN PART:

"NOTING WITH GRAVE CONCERN THE ARMED ATTACK UPON THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA BY FORCES FROM NORTH KOREA, CALLS FOR THE IMMEDIATE CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES; AND CALLS UPON THE AUTHORITIES OF NORTH KOREA TO WITHDRAW FORTHWITH THEIR ARMED FORCES TO THE THIRTY-EIGHTH PARALLEL."

D. THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY (IN RESO 498(V)) SUBSEQUENTLY ENDORSED THE SECURITY COUNCIL'S FINDING OF AGGRESSION UPON THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA.

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ETHIOPIA, THE UNITED STATES AND MANY OTHER COUNTRIES THEREAFTER FOUGHT UNDER THE UN FLAG TO HELP REPELL THIS NORTH KOREAN AGGRESSION UPON THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA.

I TRUST THAT YOUR YOUNGER READERS WILL BE AFFORDED THE OPPORTUNITY OF TAKING NOTE OF THE FOREGOING SO THAT THESE NORTH KOREAN ATTEMPTS TO REWRITE HISTORY DO NOT MISLEAD THEM. SINCERELY YOURS, ARTHUR LEWIS, COUNSELOR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS. UNQUOTE.
WYMAN

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